

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

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August 4, 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR

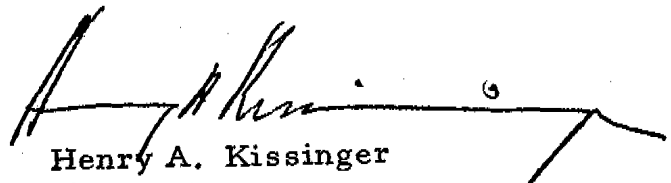
CHAIRMAN, NSC UNDER SECRETARIES COMMITTEE

SUBJECT: SALT Agreement on Measures to Prevent Accidental War.

The President directs that the SALT Backstopping Committee prepare an instruction to our SALT Delegation to implement the following decisions.

1. The Chief of the US Delegation is authorized to inform the Soviet Delegation that we are prepared to conclude an executive agreement on measures to prevent accidental war, without waiting for the completion of other agreements in SALT. Providing that the text, as worked out by the SALT subgroup is approved in Washington, the Head of the US Delegation is authorized to initial the agreement.

2. The US Delegation should solicit Soviet views concerning the timing and procedures for signing the agreement, making clear that US signature of the agreement must await appropriate consultation with Allies and with the Congress. The final decision regarding timing, publicity, and procedures for signature will be made by the President in light of Allied and Congressional reactions and views of the Soviet government.

  
Henry A. Kissinger

cc: Deputy Secretary of Defense  
Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff  
Director, Central Intelligence Agency  
Acting Director, Arms Control and  
Disarmament Agency

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MEMORANDUM

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ACTION

August 3, 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. KISSINGER

FROM: Helmut Sonnenfeldt *HS*

SUBJECT: New Instructions on Measures for Preventing  
Accidental War Agreement (See Memo at Tab C -  
Log No. 31019)

As you requested, I have prepared a Memorandum for the President (Tab A) informing him of new instructions for Gerard Smith on the initialing of a separate executive agreement on Accidental War Measures.

The new instruction for the SALT Backstopping Committee authorizes Smith to initial the agreement once the text is approved in Washington, and to inform the Soviets we will be prepared to sign the agreement once we have completed Allied and Congressional Consultation. Final decision on timing procedures and publicity are reserved for the President but Smith is authorized to seek Soviet views.

RECOMMENDATION

1. That you sign the memorandum to the President at Tab A.
2. That you sign the memorandum to the USC for the SALT Backstopping Committee (Tab B).

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